

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NASSAU 01563 242007Z

60

ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 IO-14 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 COA-02 EB-11 COME-00 EA-11 AF-10 CG-00 DOTE-00

FMC-04 INT-08 DRC-01 TRSE-00 /138 W

----- 067747

R 241221Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4778

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 1563

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR BF

SUBJ: LOS - GCOB VIEWS

SUMMARY: DURING CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR AND DCM OCTOBER 23, GCOB MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PAUL ADDERLEY SAID THAT BAHAMIAN POSITIONS ON LOS ISSUES WERE UNCHANGED FROM PRE-INDEPENDENCE STANCE. HE INDICATED THAT MINISTRY PERSONNEL HAD CONSULTED LAST WEEK WITH ARCHIPELAGO NATIONS IN NEW YORK, BUT THAT BAHAMAS WOULD NOT JOIN GROUP OR SUPPORT ITS SPECIFIC PROPOSALS BEYOND GENERAL EFFORT OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON ARCHIPELAGO PRINCIPLE. GCOB POSITIONS ON OTHER LOS ISSUES RELATIVELY FUZZY, AND NO AGREEMENT YET AS TO HOW LOS CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS AND PARTICIPATION WILL BE HANDLED WITHIN GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. AMBASSADOR AND DCM MET WITH MINISTER ADDERLEY OCTOBER 23 TO DISCUSS SEVERAL TOPICS (OTHERS REPORTED SEPTELS) AND INTRODUCE DCM. ADDERLEY WAS ASKED TO COMMENT ON HIS SPEECH TO THE PLP NATIONAL CONVENTION IN FREEPORT LAST WEEK, PARTICULARLY ITS LOS PORTIONS (COMPLETE TEXT OF SPEECH AND REPORT ON CONVENTION WILL BE SENT BY SEPARATE AIRGRAM).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NASSAU 01563 242007Z

2. IN FREEPORT SPEECH, ADDERLEY HAD SAID "IT IS NOT THE IN-

TENTION OF THE BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT TO BE BOUND BY THE OBSOLETE THREE-MILE TERRITORIAL LIMIT BY WHICH EACH SEPARATE ISLAND IN OUR ARCHIPELAGO WAS BOUND AS A DEPENDENCY OF THE UK. THE BAHAMAS SHALL CLAIM AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT TO THE APPLICATION OF THE ARCHIPELAGIC PRINCIPLE TO THE BAHAMAS AS THE ONLY LOGICAL BASIS UPON WHICH OUR ISLANDS, LOCATED AS THEY ARE, CAN INTELLIGENTLY ESTABLISH THEIR TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION. THIS POLICY DECISION HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO GAIN CONTROL OVER THE MAXIMUM AREA OF SEA BED WHICH CAN BE GEOPHYSICALLY JUSTIFIED HAVING REGARD TO THE NATURE OF THE BAHAMA BANKS, A JUSTIFIABLE AREA OF EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE TO ENABLE BAHAMIAN EXPLOITATION OF TRADITIONALLY BAHAMIAN RESOURCES OF THE SEA AND ANY FURTHER EXPLOITATION OF SUCH AREAS, AND AN AREA OF TERRITORIAL SEA WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH THE SECURITY REQUIREMENTS OF OUR SCATTERED ISLANDS, AND GENERALLY TO PROTECT OUR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE ULTIMATE SECURITY OF OUR ARCHIPELAGO MUST BE GUARANTEED WITH THE ACTIVE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OUR TWO LARGEST NEIGHBORS, THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA."

3. ADDERLEY WAS ASKED WHETHER HIS REMARKS TO THE PLP CONVENTION REPRESENTED NEW GCOB THINKING ON LOS ISSUES. HE REPLIED THAT THEY DID NOT, THAT THEY MERELY RESTATED GOVERNMENT VIEWS AS PREVIOUSLY SET FORTH IN THE 1972 WHITE PAPER AND OTHER PRE-INDEPENDENCE STATEMENTS. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY GEORGE STEWART HAD SPENT LAST WEEK IN NEW YORK, AND HAD THEN CONSULTED WITH FIJI, INDONESIA, THE PHILIPPINES, AND MAURITIUS ON THE QUESTION OF A COMMON ARCHIPELAGO POSITION. ADDERLEY SAID THAT THESE CONSULTATIONS MADE CLEAR THAT THE BAHAMIAN POSITION IS SO DIFFERENT ON THE QUESTION OF SEA LANES THROUGH THE ARCHIPELAGO THAT, APART FROM THE COMMONALITY OF BEING, IN PRINCIPLE, AN ARCHIPELAGO NATION, THERE WAS NO BASIS FOR THE BAHAMAS TO JOIN THE GROUP OR TO ESPOUSE PROPOSALS ALREADY PUT FORWARD BY IT. ADDERLEY SAID THE OTHER ARCHIPELAGO STATES WANTED TO RETAIN CONTROL OVER SEA LANES THROUGH ARCHIPELAGO ZONES; THE BAHAMIANS DID NOT.

4. ADDERLEY SAID THAT GCOB WOULD SEEK MEMBERSHIP ON SEABEDS COMMITTEE. FURTHER STEWART HAD REPORTED THAT ACCORDING TO NEW YORK UN SOURCES, IT WAS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THAT SANTIAGO

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NASSAU 01563 242007Z

WOULD BE THE SITE FOR THE APRIL SESSION AND THAT CARACAS MIGHT BE AN ALTERNATIVE. ADDERLEY SAID THAT GCOB DOES NOT KNOW WHO WILL REPRESENT IT AT LOS CONFERENCE, THAT THE ISSUES ARE STILL UNDER STUDY, AS ARE QUESTIONS RELATED TO INTERNAL HANDLING OF CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS AND PARTICIPATION.

SPIERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NASSAU01563
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SPIERS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: NASSAU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731015/aaaaaknq.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Dec-2001 by elbezejf>; APPROVED <05-Feb-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS - GCOB VIEWS SUMMARY: DURING CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR AND DCM OCTO-
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, BF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005